

Serial No. 08/655,133

a. a memory storing information in a database;

b. a receiver for receiving a communications request including a query specifying at least one criterion for searching said database;

[d.] c. a comparator for comparing information stored in said database with said at least one criterion, and

[e.] d. a transmitter for responding to said communications request only when said information stored in said database satisfies said at least one criterion.

3. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 2, in which said communications request includes at least one criterion based on location of said called station with respect to calling station.

5. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:
[a] at least one status [detectors] detector for storing information about the status of said apparatus in said database.

10. (Amended) Apparatus for establishing communications between a calling station and one or more called stations based on information stored in a database at a called station, a calling station comprising:

Serial No. 08/655,133

AS
Could.

a. an input device for specifying a query [against] for searching information stored in said database at one or more called stations; and

b. a transmitter for [sending] broadcasting a communications request including said query; and

c. a receiver for receiving a response from one or more called stations having information in said database which satisfies said query.

16. (Amended) Apparatus for establishing communications between a calling station and one or more called stations based on information stored at a called station, at least one of said one or more called stations comprising:

AS
Could.

a. a computer connected to a bus;

b. a memory connected to said bus, storing information in a database;

c. a receiver connected to said bus for receiving a communications request including a query specifying at least one criterion for searching said database; and

d. a transmitter connected to said bus,

in which said computer is configured for comparing information stored in said database with said at least one criterion, and for responding to said communications request when said information stored in said database satisfies said at least one criterion.

Sub 17
A9
could.

19. (Amended) A method for communications, comprising the steps of:

a. providing an element for performing the step of sending a communications request from an originating station including a query [against] for searching information stored at individual stations; and

b. providing an element for performing the step of receiving a response from only individual stations [at] which have information stored that satisfies said query.

Sub 17
A9
could.

25. (Amended) A computer program product comprising:

a. a memory medium, and

b. a computer program stored on said memory medium, said computer program including instructions for establishing communications between a calling station and one or more called stations [based on] when information stored at a called station satisfies a search query sent by a calling station.